

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 26, as follows:

WO 97/29767 discloses a liquid formulation comprising a growth hormone, trisodium citrate dihydrate, sodium chloride, sodium hydroxide, benzyl alcohol, pluronic PLURONIC® F-68, said formulation having a pH of 5.6.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 15, line 24, as follows:

In a preferred formulation, the surfactant is a pluronic polyol, such as for instance F68. pluronic PLURONIC®F68 is highly preferred in accordance with the present invention.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 15, line 26, as follows:

By formulating GH with the surfactant Pluronic® PLURONIC®F68 (BASF, also known as Poloxamer 188) a stable formulation was obtained that avoids the problem of precipitation, aggregation or generation of particulate matter of any kind.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 15, line 29, as follows:

Pluronic PLURONIC®F68 is a block copolymer of ethylene oxide (EO) and propylene oxide (PO). The propylene oxide block (PO) is sandwiched between two ethylene oxide (EO) blocks.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 3, as follows:

Pluronic PLURONIC® surfactants are synthesized in a two-step process:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 8, as follows:

In Pluronic PLURONIC®F68, the percentage of polyoxyethylene (hydrophile) is 80%, and the molecular weight of the hydrophobe (polyoxypropylene) is approximately 1967 Da.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 11, as follows:

Typical properties of Pluronic PLURONIC®F68 are listed below:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 17, line 8, as follows:

Other polymers having properties similar similar to Pluronic PLURONIC®F68 may also be used in the formulations of the invention.

Please amend Table 9 at page 42, line 23, as follows:

| | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| r-hGH (mg/ml) | 9.3 | 9.3 | 9.3 |
| Sucrose (mg/ml) | 9.0 | - | - |
| Benzyl alcohol (mg/ml) | 9.0 | - | - |
| Phenol | | 5.0 | 2.5 |
| <u>Pluronic</u> <u>PLURONIC® F68</u> mg/ml | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 |
| Citric acid | to pH 6,0 | to pH 6,0 | to pH 6,0 |

Please amend Table 10 at page 43, line 15, as follows:

| | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
|--|------|------|------------|-----------|
| r-hGH (mg/ml) | 0.8 | 4.0 | 0.8 | 4.0 |
| Sucrose (mg/ml) | 60.0 | 60.0 | 60.0 | 60.0 |
| Benzyl alcohol (mg/ml) | 9.0 | 9.0 | 9.0 | 9.0 |
| <u>Pluronic</u> <u>PLURONIC® F68</u> mg/ml | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.5 |
| Acetate Buffer pH 5,9 | 10mM | 10mM | - | - |
| Citric acid | - | - | to pH 5, 9 | To pH 5,9 |

Please amend Table 11 at page 43, line 17, as follows:

| | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
|--|------|------|-----------|-----------|------|
| r-hGH (mg/ml) | 0.8 | 4.0 | 0.8 | 4.0 | 0.8 |
| Sucrose (mg/ml) | 60.0 | 60.0 | 60.0 | 60.0 | 60.0 |
| Phenol (mg/ml) | 3.0 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 3.0 |
| <u>Pluronic</u> <u>PLURONIC®</u> F68 (mg/ml) | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.5 |
| Acetate buffer pH 5.9 | 10mM | 10mM | - | - | - |
| Citrate Buffer pH 5.9 | - | - | - | - | 10mM |
| Citric acid | - | - | to pH 5,9 | to pH 5,9 | |